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## Obama Administration Announces Additional \$14,003,800 for Local Energy Efficiency Improvements in West Virginia

Block Grants to Support Jobs, Cut Energy Bills, and Increase Energy Independence

**WASHINGTON** – Vice President Joe Biden and Energy Secretary Steven Chu today announced plans to invest \$3.2 billion in energy efficiency and conservation projects in U.S. cities, counties, states, territories, and Native American tribes. This includes \$14,003,800 for state, county and city efforts in West Virginia. A detailed breakdown is below.

Today's announcement builds on an investment of \$70,329,874 in West Virginia weatherization and energy funding announced by the Administration on March 12<sup>th</sup> and detailed at <u>energy.gov/recovery</u>.

"These investments will save taxpayer dollars and create jobs in communities around the country," said Vice President Biden. "Local leaders will have the flexibility in how they put these resources to work – but we will hold them accountable for making the investments quickly and wisely to spur the local economy and cut energy use."

The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program, funded by President Obama's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, will provide formula grants for projects that reduce total energy use and fossil fuel emissions, and improve energy efficiency.

The funding will support energy audits and energy efficiency retrofits in residential and commercial buildings, the development and implementation of advanced building codes and inspections, and the creation of financial incentive programs for energy efficiency improvements. Other activities eligible for use of grant funds include transportation programs that conserve energy, projects to reduce and capture methane and other greenhouse gas emissions from landfills, renewable energy installations on

government buildings, energy efficient traffic signals and street lights, deployment of Combined Heat and Power and district heating and cooling systems, and others.

To ensure accountability, the Department of Energy will provide guidance to and require grant recipients to report on the number of jobs created or retained, energy saved, renewable energy capacity installed, greenhouse gas emissions reduced, and funds leveraged. Funding is based on a formula that accounts for population and energy use.

"The Block Grants are a major investment in energy solutions that will strengthen America's economy and create jobs at the local level," said Secretary Chu. "The funding will be used for the cheapest, cleanest and most reliable energy technologies we have – energy efficiency and conservation – which can be deployed immediately. The grants also empower local communities to make strategic investments to meet the nation's long term clean energy and climate goals."

Funding for state, city, and county governments in the state includes:

WV	West Virginia Total Sum City, County, and SEO Allocations	All	\$14,003,800
WV	West Virginia	State Energy Office	\$9,593,500
WV	Beckley	City	\$83,100
WV	Charleston	City	\$582,300
WV	Clarksburg	City	\$79,300
WV	Fairmont	City	\$87,100
WV	Huntington	City	\$228,900
WV	Martinsburg	City	\$77,100
WV	Morgantown	City	\$150,500
WV	Parkersburg	City	\$148,700
WV	Weirton	City	\$85,200
WV	Wheeling	City	\$137,800
WV	Berkeley	County	\$329,600
WV	Cabell	County	\$206,900
WV	Harrison	County	\$219,100
WV	Jefferson	County	\$207,900
WV	Kanawha	County	\$583,400
WV	Mercer	County	\$261,500
WV	Monongalia	County	\$234,300
WV	Putnam	County	\$227,000
WV	Raleigh	County	\$256,700
WV	Wood	County	\$223,900

More information on the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program is available on <a href="http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/wip/block\_grants.cfm">http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/wip/block\_grants.cfm</a>.